

FISCAL NOTE

SB 1910 – HB 1950

March 31, 2007

SUMMARY OF BILL: Enacts the “Schools Against Violence in Education Act” or “SAVE Act” which requires the Commissioner of Education to establish a state-level safety team to assist LEAs with compliance. LEAs shall adopt comprehensive district-wide and building-level school safety plans dealing with crisis intervention, emergency response and emergency management as it relates to school violence. The Department of Education, in conjunction with the Department of Safety, shall establish a statewide uniform violent incident reporting system for reporting information regarding violent and disruptive incidents. No later than February 1, 2008, the commissioner will report to the governor and general assembly as to implementation and compliance.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - \$85,500/Dept. of Education
Increase Local Govt. Expenditures* – \$170,100

Assumptions:

- One additional position in the Department of Education will be needed to review submitted safety plans, provide consultation to local school districts, collect and assemble violent incident data, and prepare required reports. The cost of such position is estimated to be approximately \$75,500 including benefits and approximately \$10,000 for travel expenses.
- Required training for school resource officers (SROs) not currently trained in school policing is estimated to be \$170,100. This estimate is based on an estimated 190 SROs x \$500 for NASRO basic training and an additional \$395 for travel and lodging for five days. (190 SROs x \$895)
- Ongoing school safety training for local school districts to insure that required plans are up-to-date and viable is estimated to be not significant and can be handled within existing resources of the department.
- Any cost to the Department of Safety to consult the Department of Education in establishing a statewide uniform incident reporting system for LEAs to follow is estimated to be not significant and can be handled within existing resources.

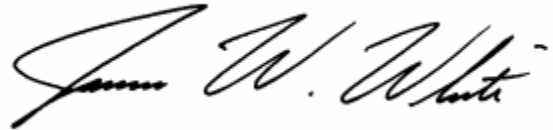
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- There could be some cost associated with the requirement that LEAs must file information concerning violent and disruptive incidents to the Commissioner of Education. However, such increase is estimated to be not significant on local government expenditures. This would most likely affect the large school districts with the largest number of students and a higher rate of incidents.

**Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.*

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" written in a smaller, more compact script than the last name "White".

James W. White, Executive Director